

Annual Report

of the

School Committee

Southbridge, Mass.



for the

Year Ending

December 31, 1938

SOUTHBRIDGE EVENING NEWS, INC.

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SOUTHBIDGE EVENING NEWS, INC.

Organization of the SCHOOL COMMITTEE—1938-39

Hector M. LeClair, Chairman, 139 Hartwell Street	1940
Edmund A. Ryan, 402 Main Street	1940
George W. Dumas, 160 Sayles Street	1939
J. Arthur Genereux, Newell Avenue	1939
Nestor L. Pontbriand, 12 Cohasse Street	1941
Henry J. Tetrault*	

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Channing H. Greene Residence 35 Orchard Street
Office: High School Building, Tel. 365

The Superintendent's office is open on school days from 8:00 to 11:30 A. M. and 1:30 to 5:00 P. M., Saturdays: 9:00 to 11:30 A. M., Monday and Wednesday evenings: 7:00 to 7:30 P. M.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CLERK

Leona Lavoie, 116 Charlton Street Tel. 1829-W

SCHOOL PHYSICIANS

Dr. Charles Simpson*

Dr. William Langevin, 18 Hamilton Street Tel. 984-W

Dr. Adah B. Eccleston, 62 Elm Street Tel. 32

SCHOOL NURSE

Winifred V. King, 91 Elm Street Tel. 1340-W

SUPERVISOR OF ATTENDANCE

Emery Lavalley, 126 Litchfield Ave. Tel. 893-J

SCHOOL CALENDAR—1939

Winter term, seven weeks January 3-February 17

Spring term, eight weeks February 27-April 14

Summer term, eight weeks April 24-June 23

Fall term, sixteen weeks September 6-December 22

*Deceased

NO-SCHOOL SIGNALS

2-2-2 on fire alarm at 7:45 A. M. **no morning session for all grades.** The street lights will be on for 5 minutes beginning at 7:45 A. M. to also indicate **no morning session for all grades.**

2-2-2 on fire alarm at 12:30 P. M. **no afternoon session for all grades.** The street lights will be on for 5 minutes beginning at 12:30 P. M. to also indicate **no afternoon session for all grades.**

Even if there has been no morning session there will be an afternoon session unless signals are given.

The street light signals are provided through the courtesy of the Worcester County Electric Company.

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE

To the Citizens of Southbridge:

The School Committee herewith submits the following report of the finances of the School Department of the Town for the year closing December 31, 1938:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In brief:

Total expenditures	\$195,911.25
Total receipts returned to Town Treasurer	55,390.67
Net cost to the Town	140,520.58

In detail:

Receipts to School Department:

Appropriation	183,881.00
Smith-Hughes Fund, U. S. Government	3,198.19
George-Deen Fund 11,138.45	
Bal.—Dec. 31, 1938 2,301.32	
	8,837.13

Total funds available	195,916.32
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Expenditures:

General Control	6,577.35
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AUXILIARY AGENCIES:

Transportation	7,483.40
Tuition to other schools	84.00

Total—Auxiliary Agencies	7,567.40
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Amount forward	\$14,144.75
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Amount forward _____ \$14,144.75

HIGH SCHOOL:

Instruction salaries _____ 33,747.02

Instruction expenses:

Textbooks _____ 1,241.75

Supplies _____ 2,757.51

Other expenses _____ 446.51

Operation of plant _____ 5,059.07

Maintenance of plant _____ 1,309.04

Capital outlay _____ 1,919.78

Total—High School _____ 46,480.68

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

Instruction salaries _____ 62,446.07

Instruction expenses:

Textbooks _____ 2,019.08

Supplies _____ 2,802.34

Other expenses _____ 10.45

Operation of plant _____ 13,890.57

Maintenance of plant _____ 2,418.02

Capital outlay _____ 2,641.90

Total—Elementary Schools _____ 86,228.43

Amount forward _____ \$146,853.86

Amount forward -----	\$146,853.86
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VOCATIONAL SCHOOL:

Instruction salaries -----	28,789.70
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Instruction expenses:

Textbooks -----	329.31
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Supplies -----	2,397.44
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Other expenses -----	214.38
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Operation plant -----	2,743.12
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Maintenance of plant -----	913.44
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Capital outlay -----	2,655.15
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Total—Vocational School _	38,042.54
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ELEMENTARY EVENING SCHOOL:

Instruction salaries -----	457.50
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Operation of plant -----	140.00
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Total—Elementary School _	597.50
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COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE:

Salary -----	406.25
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Total—Compulsory Attendance	406.25
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MEDICAL SERVICE:

Salary -----	1,021.70
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Total—Medical Service ---	1,021.70
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Amount forward -----	\$186,921.85
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Amount forward -----	\$186,921.85
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NURSE SERVICE:

Salary -----	1,450.00
Other expenses -----	411.45

Total—Nurse Service -----	1,861.45
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DOMESTIC SCIENCE:

Salaries -----	3,250.00
Supplies -----	225.05
Maintenance -----	35.34
Capital outlay -----	4.21

Total—Domestic Science --	3,514.60
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SHOP:

Salary -----	1,333.36
Supplies -----	328.62
Maintenance -----	36.84
Capital outlay -----	1.50

Total—Shop -----	1,700.32
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CONTINUATION SCHOOL:

Supplies -----	46.18
Maintenance -----	12.00

Total—Continuation School	58.18
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HOUSEHOLD ARTS:

Supplies -----	110.50
Other instruction expenses -----	21.72

Total—Household Arts -----	132.22
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Amount forward -----	\$194,188.62
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Amount forward -----	\$194,188.62
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SALESMANSHIP COURSE:

Salaries -----	252.00	
Total—Salesmanship Course		252.00

EVENING VOCATIONAL SCHOOL:

Instruction salaries -----	1,031.00
Instruction expenses:	
Supplies -----	52.15
Operation of plant -----	320.00
Maintenance of plant -----	62.75
Capital outlay -----	4.73

Total—Evening Vocational School -----	1,470.63
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Total Expenditures -----	\$195,911.25
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Balance on hand December 31, 1938	5.07
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	<u>\$195,916.32</u>
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RECEIPTS RETURNED TO TOWN TREASURER

Massachusetts School Fund ----	\$12,460.95
Vocational School (Coop.) State Grant -----	5,416.08
Vocational School (Day) State Grant -----	3,552.13
Vocational School (Evening) State Grant -----	586.94
Household Arts—State Grant --	1,171.56
Smith-Hughes, U. S. Government Fund -----	3,198.19
George-Deen Fund -----	11,138.45
High School Tuition -----	10,760.00
Evening Vocational School Tuition -----	173.60

Evening Vocational School Registration Fees	103.38
Vocational School Tuition	7,670.61
Bus Tickets Sold	7.50
Use of Auditorium	23.00
Continuation School, State	445.96
Americanization Classes—State Grant	631.72
Cole Trade School, Goods Sold	330.57
Manual Arts Department, Goods Sold	8.95
Books and Supplies Sold	2.60
Worcester Boys Evening Trade School Tuition, State	9.80
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Total	\$57,691.99
George-Deen Fund — Bal., Dec. 31, 1938	2,301.32
	<hr/>
Total Receipts Returned to Town Treasurer	55,390.67
Total Expenditures	\$195,911.25
Total Receipts Returned to Town Treasurer	55,390.67
	<hr/>
Net Cost to the Town	\$140,520.58

The opening of the new school in the "Flats section" will bring to completion a building program first advocated by the school authorities in their report for the year ending December 31, 1927.

The Committee of 1926 had inserted in the warrant for the March meeting the following article:

"To see if the town will vote to appoint a committee—to consider the building of a junior high school"—This committee reported that the overcrowded condition

in the upper grades and high school would be best relieved if the vocational school department—could be given separate quarters in a building especially adapted to its needs.

This resulted in the magnificent gift by Miss Ella M. Cole of the Robert H. Cole Trade School as a memorial to her father. The building of this school relieved the situation temporarily, but the concluding sentence in the school committee report for the year ending December 31, 1930 was as follows:

“From these facts it is evident that the town must plan for more school accommodations and it is the intention of the committee to ask the voters at the annual March meeting to appoint a committee to plan the best method of meeting this necessity.”

The report of the following year announced that the committee had been forced to open temporary rooms in the Central Mills building and asked the voters to give serious consideration to the findings and proposal of the special committee on school accommodations.

This committee under the chairmanship of A. B. Wells presented a very comprehensive report as to building needs and proposed that the town should build a school containing “22 regular classrooms, 2 opportunity classrooms, a double sub-primary room, a gymnasium, auditorium, library, shop, sewing room, etc.

Although the town did not see fit to vote for this building, the need for additional accommodations was indicated in these sentences: “The problem of properly housing all pupils is no less acute” and—“It means the use of poorly lighted basement rooms and should be considered only as a temporary measure.”

The situation did not improve, and in the next report the School Committee went on record in this manner:

“The Committee wishes to again point out the wretched and overcrowded building situation. It cannot

emphasize too strongly the need for added school facilities. A way should be found for the town to take advantage of the opportunity to secure federal aid—."

In the face of the failure of voters to sanction the erection of a new building, make-shift improvements were made at several schools and the report for the next year said, "The Committee will continue to provide the best quarters possible within its limitations."

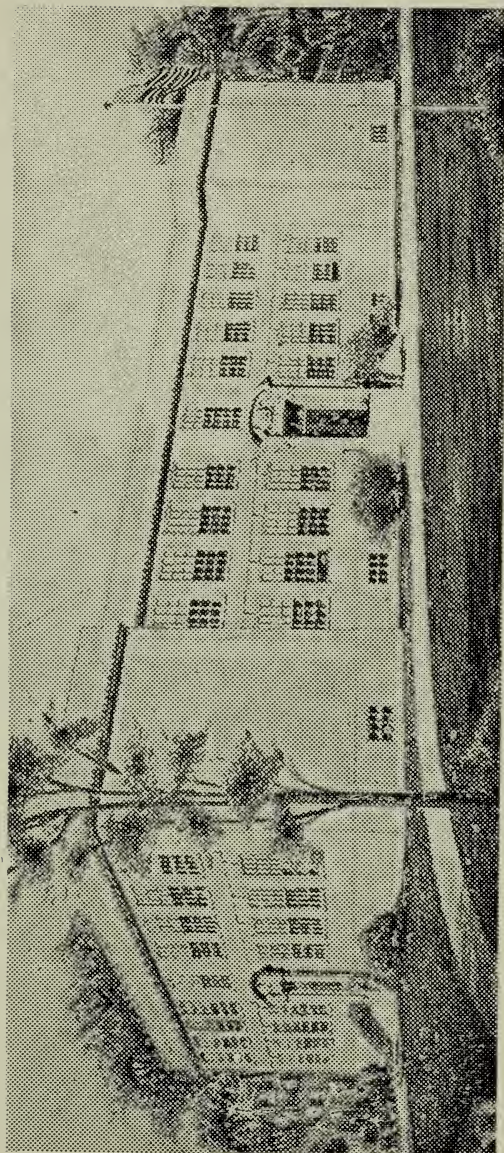
In August of 1935 the long continued, and earnest appeals of the School Committee for new schools were recognized, as the citizens of the town appropriated \$255,000 for the erection of two elementary school buildings, conditional upon a federal grant. The grant was secured, the buildings were constructed, and are functioning in a very splendid manner as neighborhood schools.

As the school population in the Flats section continued to grow, the Mechanic Street School could not absorb them, and in the spring of 1938 figures showed that nearly 100 of these pupils were being transported or walking to the Eastford Road School. The voters of the town, wishing to correct this situation, voted with federal aid to construct an elementary school in that section.

Thus, has the work of twelve years been crowned with success, and the writer of this report is justly proud of having served as Chairman of the School Committee during all this time, and of having seen such a comprehensive and complete building program.

Encouraged by the confidence as expressed by the voters during these years, the writer now proposes consideration of the voters to the setting up of a vocational school for girls in the Mechanic Street School.

The operating expenses of such a school would be shared equally by the state, or federal government, and therefore at a very small net cost to the town.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING

Charlton and Evergreen Streets

Southbridge, Massachusetts

This suggestion is made: (a) because of a desire to give our girls vocational training comparable to that given to boys; (b) because the federal government is proposing a large increase in its grants to vocational education for both boys and girls; and (c) because this offering would completely round out the educational system of our town.

Subjects to be taught there would be those which would prove most valuable to pupils attending the school, to the industries, and to the homes of Southbridge. From a study of offerings in trade schools for girls already established in Massachusetts communities, we may well consider establishing some or all of the following courses: cooking, sewing, dressmaking, power stitching, homemaking, nursing, and child care, and other short unit courses of training fitting for employment in local industries.

The welfare of all the boys and girls in the public schools of Southbridge has been and will continue to be the primary interest of the school authorities.

For further information concerning policies and management of the schools, the Committee refers to the report of Mr. C. H. Greene, Superintendent of Schools, which is herewith submitted as a part of our report.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. LeCLAIR, Chairman.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

To the School Committee of Southbridge:

It is a pleasure to submit herewith my second annual report, which is the fifty-fourth such report issued by the superintendents of the public schools of Southbridge.

One of the most important happenings of the calendar year just closed was the vote of the town to build an elementary school in the Flats section. As details of this are covered in the report of Chairman Le Clair, I will give it only passing mention here.

In September, with the cooperation of the Federal government, we were able to set up a general vocational school for boys, which will serve as a training unit for the Cole Trade School. This should tremendously reduce the mortality at the Trade School by giving the pupils in this course an opportunity for try-out work, and to make adjustments before being thrown into the more technical courses.

The Trade School, by its own right, is attracting an increasing number of pupils, both local and out of town. In this connection, the citizens have a right to know that our reimbursement, from tuition, state, and federal grants, and other sources of income, has reached the estimated figure of \$58,000 in 1939. Thus the net cost of education to the town compares very favorably with net costs in other towns.

The present Congress of the United States will probably consider the so-called Reeves bill for the equalization and expansion of federal aid to education. A considerable share of these funds will be devoted to vocational education, even extending the grants of the past two years.

The Cole Trade School was in a position to obtain some of this money, and with our introduction of a gen-

eral vocational school, the salaries of six teachers are paid from those funds. If and when a further expansion comes, the Southbridge school authorities will seek to gain such a share as we can profit by receiving.

Probably the item of newest expansion in educational practice is the increased use of visual educational equipment. The American Optical Company has cooperated splendidly in helping us in the introduction of Metronoscopes for the improvement of reading and arithmetic principally.

It seems to me that Southbridge, as much as any town in New England, should use this device. The Worcester County Superintendents have asked to hold their spring meeting here on March 23, 1939, and at that time will view, with considerable interest, I am sure, our programs in visual, and vocational education.

Parents are too well acquainted with our curriculum, and standards of work in both elementary and secondary schools to need much discussion of those things here, but I do want to bring to their attention the splendid avenues we have for training for citizenship through our assembly programs, and extra-curricula activities.

We hope that assembly programs at each and every school can bring to all pupils a generous share of those happy times, and through them, a deeper affection for their school, and a keener realization of educational advantages offered here.

I want to express to Miss Hedwiga Swiacki, Class of 1940, our gratitude for keeping the school orchestra and band together until a new instructor was engaged to fill the gap left by the resignation of Mr. Winston.

Miss Mary L. Boardman retired at the end of school last June after forty-seven years of service in the Southbridge Public Schools. Scores of our citizens who remember her as a teacher, counselor, and friend will wish her many many years of happiness in her freedom from the cares and responsibilities of a teacher.

This year, too, marks the retirement of George W. Dumas as a member of the School Committee. He has at all times worked untiringly in the interest of the boys and girls of Southbridge, and has been absolutely fair, firm, and fearless in expressing his opinion on school department issues. The writer feels a deep sense of personal loss in his decision not to seek re-election at this time.

Our official family circle was broken last May by the passing of School Committeeman Tetrault. Although he had served as a member only a short time, his counsel was willing and valuable, and, therefore, his name can be added to the list of public spirited citizens who have ministered to the educational needs of our boys and girls.

We were all shocked on October 12, 1938, to learn of the sudden death of Dr. Charles Simpson, who had been School Physician since January 1922. He, too, was a real friend to Southbridge children, and gave himself unstintingly to the work of his department.

At the October meeting of the School Committee "The Superintendent was directed to study the general salary situation—and present a recommendation for adoption in next year's budget."

Soon after this meeting, it was learned that hurricane expense, and other urgent expenses of the town, amounting to over \$60,000, would have to be paid in 1939, and so no recommendation on salaries was made for the present budget.

It is my firm conviction, however, that a revised salary schedule is necessary to take greater recognition of professional improvement, and to set up a super-maximum salary for teachers who are rendering outstanding service in various departments. In addition to this, when the financial condition of the town warrants it, I recommend that we raise the minimum salary by \$100, and that we continue

the single salary scale, which means that a first grade teacher of equal training may receive the same maximum salary of the teachers in the highest grade.

For the splendid support of School Committee members and taxpayers, I am sincerely grateful.

Respectfully submitted

CHANNING H. GREENE

Superintendent of Schools

STATISTICAL REPORT

Throughout this report the year relative to attendance extends from September, 1937, to July, 1938; the year relative to expenditures from January 1, 1938 to January 1, 1939.

I. - Population and Valuation

Population of town, census of 1930	14,262
Population of town, census of 1935	15,786
Assessed valuation of town	\$12,165,865.00
Number of polls, male	5,188
Rate of taxation	\$35.40
Valuation of school houses and lots	\$793,000.00
Valuation of other school property	\$45,000.00

II. - School Houses (Including Trade School) 1938-39

Number houses—occupied 7	unoccupied 0
Schoolrooms—occupied 78	unoccupied 1

III. - Teachers (Including Trade School)

Number of male teachers	22
Number of female teachers	55

IV. - Pupils

Number of children in town October 1, as reported by the census enumerator:

	1937	1938
Between the ages of 5 and 16 -----	3,038	2,957
Between the ages of 5 and 7 -----	405	368
Between the ages of 7 and 14 -----	1,989	1,925
Between the ages of 14 and 16 -----	644	664
 Total enrollment PUBLIC SCHOOLS -----	 1,997	 1,931
Average membership -----	1,887	1,861
Average daily attendance -----	1,805	1,791
Number between 5 and 7 -----	166	179
Number between 7 and 14 -----	1,090	1,052
Number between 14 and 16 -----	492	425
Number over 16 years of age -----	249	275
 Number enrolled at NOTRE DAME -----	 702	 725
Number between 5 and 7 -----	83	72
Number between 7 and 14 -----	506	585
Number between 14 and 16 -----	83	40
Number over 16 years of age -----	30	28
Average membership -----	672	628
Average attendance -----	658	613
Number of teachers -----	17	20
 Number enrolled at SACRED HEART -----	 457	 412
Number between 5 and 7 -----	80	58
Number between 7 and 14 -----	343	335
Number between 14 and 16 -----	34	19
Number over 16 years of age -----	0	0
Average membership -----	434	399
Average attendance -----	414	388
Number of teachers -----	9	9

	1937	1938
Number enrolled at ST. MARY'S -----	237	220
Number between 5 and 7 -----	32	24
Number between 7 and 14 -----	138	130
Number between 14 and 16 -----	36	36
Number over 16 years of age -----	31	30
Average membership -----	222	217
Average attendance -----	210	209
Number of teachers -----	8	8

V. - Per Pupil Costs

(School year ending June 30, 1938)

Pupils in grades 1-12; Trade School not included)

*Column No.

12	Average membership, grades 1-12	1,862
46	Expenditures for all purposes, grades 1-12 ..	\$150,156.38
47A	Cost per pupil in average membership, grades 1-12	\$80.64
**47A	State average cost per pupil in average membership, grades 1-12	\$91.03
63	Average membership, grades 1-8	1,258
64	Expenditure for all purposes, grades 1-8	\$91,902.16
65	Cost per pupil in average membership, grades 1-8	\$73.05
**65	State average cost per pupil in average membership, grades 1-8	\$77.08
117	Average membership, grades 9-12	604
118	Expenditures for all purposes, grades 9-12 ...	\$47,699.46
119	Cost per pupil in average membership, grades 9-12	\$78.97
**119	State average cost per pupil, grades 9-12	\$101.15

*Reference: To same column numbers in Annual Report of the State Department of Education for school year ending June 30, 1938, Part II.

**All towns in state above 5,000 population but not including the 39 cities. (83 towns in this group).

CHANGE OF TEACHERS—Resigned

June	Mary Boardman	West Street
June	Evelyn Dover	High School
June	Harold M. Hawkes	High School
December	Arline Houghton	Eastford Road
December	Gabrielle Trafton	Marcy Street
June	William L. Winston	High School

Appointed

May	Elmer Akerson	Cole Trade
September	Charles A. Andrews	General Vocational
September	George H. Braman	General Vocational
May	Walter J. Glondek	General Vocational
December	Robert C. Hall	High School
September	Lewis A. Kyrios	High School
September	Jeannette Plante	High School
September	Alice E. Walters	High School

CORPS OF TEACHERS—January 1, 1939

	1st. Appt.	Position	College Attended
Channing H. Greene	1929	Superintendent	Middlebury (a) U. of N. H. (b) Mass. Ext. Service (c)
Leona Lavoie	1926	Sec. to Supt.	M.E.W. High School

MARY E. WELLS HIGH

*James M. Robertson	1937	Principal	B. U. (a) (b) Harvard (c) Mass. Ext. Ser. (c)
Elsie Hofstra	1933	Sec. (to Principal)	Becker's Business College
Pauline M. Aucoin	1920	Com. & French	Boston University (a) (c)
Kathryn Beauregard	1922	French	Middlebury (a) (c)
Agnes Bowen	1934	Commercial	U. of Vt., (a) B. U. (c)
Rose Brodeur		Specials (part time)	B. U.
Constance Coderre	1929	Commercial	Simmons (a) B. U. (c) Columbia (c)
Luise B. Corbin	1924	Home Economics	Wheaton & Simmons
Paul E. Dion	1936	Specials & Visual Education	R. I. College of Ed. (a) (c) B. U. (c) Clark (c)

Notes—*Principal

- (a) Bachelor's Degree
- (b) Master's Degree
- (c) Graduate Work

	1st. Appt.	Position	College Attended
Priscilla Drake	1928	Hist., Soc. Studies	B. U. (a) (b)
Martin J. Earls	1934	English	Holy Cross (a) Columbia (c) Harvard (c) Mass. S. C. (c)
Marjorie D. Fitch	1933	Specials	Bridgewater T. C. (a) Columbia (c) Simmons (c)
Thecla Fitzgerald	1926	English	Radcliffe (a) B. U. (b)
Robert C. Hall	1939	Science & Music	Neb. Wesleyan (a) U. of Neb. (b) U. of Neb. (c) Brown (c)
Berthe Hebert	1937	Music	Columbia (a) B. U. (b)
C. Estelle Hefner	1933	Latin & English, Social Studies	Brown U. (a) B. U. (c)
Persis Howe	1930	Commercial	Salem T. C. (a) Clark (c) Col. (c)
Stephanie Kozyra	1934	Mathematics	Fitchburg T. C. (a) Winnetka (c)
Lewis A. Kryios	1938	Science	Tufts College (a) (c) B. U. (c)
Dorothy Lanphear	1935	English	Worcester T. C. (a) Clark (c)
Harry J. McMahon	1926	Science	Holy Cross (a) Harvard (c) Boston University (c)
Milton E. Mickelson	1936	Soc. Studies	Harvard (a) (b) (c)
Berg Paraghamian	1937	Math & Physics	Harvard (a) (b)
Cecile M. Pinard	1936	Eng., Soc. St., (French)	Worcester T. C. (a) Columbia (b) (c)
Jeannette Plante	1938	Commercial	Mary Wash. U. (a)
Eva Poulin	1932	Social Studies	Worcester T. C. (a) Clark (b) (c)
Marie J. Saunders	1924	Soc. St., Math.	Westchester Normal
S. Hayward Snell	1935	English	Clark (a) Harvard (c)
Frances Troy	1927	Commercial	Salem T. C. (a) B. U. (c)
Alice Walters	1938	Home Economics	Simmons (a)

Notes—*Principal

(a) Bachelor's Degree

(b) Master's Degree

(c) Graduate Work

GENERAL VOCATIONAL

	1st. Appt.	Position	College Attended
Charles A. Andrews	1938	General Shop	Fitchburg T. C. (a) B. U. (c)
Robert V. Beals	1931	Academic Subjects.	Harvard (a) U. of N. H. (b)
George H. Braman	1938	Related Subjects	Northeastern U. Extension Courses
Walter J. Glondek	1938	General Metal	Cole Trade, Fitchburg, Clark, Extension Courses.
Joseph B. Lanza	1929	Woodworking Shop	Fitchburg T. C. (a) Springfield (c)

MARCY STREET SCHOOL

*Laura B. Desmarais	1922	Grade 7, Cont.	St. Ann's Academy
Ruth W. Beck	1928	Grades 1 & 2	M. E. W. H. S.
Doris Claffin	1937	Grades 7 & Spec.	Framingham T. C. (a)
Hannah Cook	1929	Grade 7	Bridgewater T. C., Hyannis T. C. (a) Clark (c) B. U. (c) State Extension
Marjorie V. Harrington	1933	Grade 7	Bridgewater T. C. (a) U. of Colorado (c)
May O. Simpson	1911	Specials	Worcester T. C.
Bertha L. Wallace	1922	Grade 7	Hyannis T. C.
Julia C. Yott	1917	Grade 7	Fitchburg T. C.

COLE TRADE SCHOOL

*Clark H. Morrell	1931	Director	B. U. (a), State Courses
Margaret R. Connolly	1922	Sec. to Dir.	N. E. School of Sec. Science
Elmer Akerson	1928	Painting & Dec.	U. of N. H., Special work at Fitchburg T. C.
Nils Engstrom	1920	Electricity	Massachusetts S. C.
Leo Grenier	1936	Machinery	Cole Trade, State Ext. Courses
Nels Johnson	1937	Machinery	Gen. Elec. Lynn, Lowell Textile

Notes—*Principal

(a) Bachelor's Degree

(b) Master's Degree

(c) Graduate Work

	1st. Appt.	Position	College Attended
Emery A. Lavallee	1926	Drawing	Fitchburg Voc., State Courses
Frank Olson	1929	Machinery	Mass. Inst. Tech., Fitchburg
Herman Polley	1933	Auto Mechanics	Wentworth Inst., State Courses
Frank P. Skinyon	1934	Woodworking	Fitchburg T. C. (a)
Lawrence F. Swenson	1932	Machinery	Wentworth Inst., Fitchburg

EASTFORD ROAD SCHOOL

*Margaret G. Butler	1892	Special Pupils	Hyannis T. C.
Alice Dion	1935	Specials (Half Time)	Massachu- setts S. C. (a)
Bertha Foley	1912	Grade 2	Worcester T. C.
Irene Gough	1914	Grade 6	School of Domestic Science
Helen Houlberg	1930	Grade 6	Fitchburg Teachers College (a)
Helen Jedlicka	1937	Grade 5	Westfield Teachers College (a)
Mabel Joy	1915	Grade 5	Salem Teachers College
Nathalie McNitt	1933	Grade 1	Lowell Teachers College (a)
Julia Morrill	1914	Grade 3	St. Joseph Normal
Pauline M. Roy	1923	Grade 4	North Adams Teachers College

WEST STREET SCHOOL

*Elizabeth S. Hall	1916	Grade 6	Colby
Laurenda A. Boyer	1928	Grade 4	Boston University
Celestine M. Carey	1932	Grade 6	Our Lady of the Elms
Sylvia Claflin	1929	Grade 1	Westfield T. C., Columbia
Alice Dion	1935	Grade 6 (Half Time)	Massachu- setts State College (a)
Annie S. Marcy	1900	Grade 5	Worcester Teachers College
Mary E. McCabe	1890	Grade 2	Quincy Training
Alice E. Wixted	1926	Grade 3	North Adams Teachers College

Notes—*Principal

- (a) Bachelor's Degree
- (b) Master's Degree
- (c) Graduate Work

MECHANIC STREET SCHOOL

	1st. Appt.	Position	College Attended
*Jennie G. Monroe	1905	Grade 4	Bridgewater Teachers College
Mabel Chamberlain	1902	Grade 2	State Extension
Mary E. Chase	1906	Grade 3	Thompson High
Ellen S. McMaster	1933	Grade 1	Wheelock School

RIVER STREET SCHOOL

*Anna Herron	1931	Grade 3	Fitchburg Teachers College
Corrine Beaudreau	1924	Grade 4	State Extension
Edith M. Randall	1920	Grades 1 & 2	State Extension
Ruth Sampson	1930	Grades 4 & 5	Westfield Teachers College

SPECIAL TEACHERS

Claire Birtz	1937	Special	Worcester School of Art
Margaret G. Butler	1892	Director of Americanization	Hyannis
Laura B. Desmarais	1922	Director of Continuation	St. Ann's Academy
Paul Dion	1936	Visual Education	R. I. College of Ed. (a) (c) Boston University (c)

JANITORS

	1st Appt.	
Pierre Allard	1937	River Street School
Deus Asselin	1937	Marcy Street School
Rosario Bertrand	1936	West Street School
Felix Lavallee	1923	Mary E. Wells High School
Rodolph L'Homme	1935	Mary E. Wells High School
Napoleon Martel	1937	Mary E. Wells High School
Armand Mathieu	1936	Eastford Road School
Omer Metivier	1933	Mechanic Street School
Charles Quevillon	1928	Cole Trade School

Notes—*Principal

(a) Bachelor's Degree

(b) Master's Degree

(c) Graduate Work

STATISTICS FROM SCHOOL REGISTERS

School Year Ending July 1, 1938

						Aver.		
						Tot. Daily	Aver.	P. C.
	Boys	Gls.	Tot.	Mem.	Att.	Mem.	of Att.	
High School VIII-XII	362	461	823	825	752.92	776.51	95.86	
Marcy St. Grammar VII	90	84	174	180	164.26	170.47	96.37	
Eastford Road VI	39	37	76	75	72.57	74.06	96.69	
West Street VI	36	34	70	73	68.07	70.63	96.42	
Eastford Road V	29	46	75	75	69.28	72.88	95.16	
Marcy Street V	11	14	25	26	23.72	25.36	93.45	
West Street V	34	31	65	67	61.20	63.40	96.61	
Eastford Road IV	19	17	36	36	33.99	34.9	97.40	
Mechanic Street IV	14	19	33	37	32.96	33.93	97.19	
West Street IV	21	6	27	31	28.13	29.23	95.74	
River Street III & IV	19	15	34	38	34.50	35.58	96.83	
Eastford Road III	18	19	37	38	35.66	37.12	95.83	
Mechanic Street III	20	24	44	44	39.41	40.79	96.72	
West Street III	20	16	36	38	33.92	35.52	95.66	
Eastford Road II & III	11	19	30	30	28.16	29.82	93.42	
Mechanic Street II	24	17	41	41	33.48	34.95	95.76	
River Street II	9	10	19	20	18.13	18.80	96.42	
West Street II	19	15	34	34	30.09	32.33	95.70	
Marcy Street I & II	19	14	33	35	29.85	31.67	94.34	
Eastford Road I	23	21	44	43	39.62	41.8	94.55	
Mechanic Street I	22	18	40	45	40.40	42.97	92.70	
River Street I	10	15	25	25	21.52	22.79	94.36	
West Street I	18	13	31	36	32.47	33.82	95.94	
Eastford Road Ungraded	17	—	17	17	15.12	15.33	98.58	
Marcy Street Ungraded	17	12	29	30	13.74	14.32	95.68	
M. E. Wells High Ungraded	32	12	44	45	24.58	26.43	93.03	
Cole Trade Day	151	—	151	151	56.15	60.99	75.91	
Cole Trade Coop.	174	—	174	174	82.88	86.97	97.98	

ENROLLMENT BY AGE AND GRADE

October 1, 1937—Boys

Grade	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Tot.
I	17	61	9	1														88
II		16	36	10	3	1	1											67
III			18	38	15	5												76
IV			1	13	30	11	3	1	1									60
V				1	12	25	22	10	2	1								73
VI						16	32	13	11	2	1							75
VII						3	11	43	15	14	2	1						89
VIII							2	11	40	14	13	2						82
IX							1	4	19	51	30	11	1					117
X								1	3	8	23	24	8	2	1			70
XI										1	15	26	5	4				51
XII												1	20	12	6	2	1	43
Specials					2	4	3	12	10	14	8	6	1					60
	17	77	64	63	62	65	75	95	101	105	93	90	27	12	3	1	1	951

ENROLLMENT BY AGE AND GRADE

October 1, 1937—Girls

Grade	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Tot.
I	27	41	8	2														78
II		21	36	3	2			1										63
III			1	12	36	10	7	1										67
IV				1	17	23	7		1	1								50
V					3	26	34	17	3	4	3		1					91
VI						3	23	28	12	5								71
VII							16	36	17	7	2							78
VIII							2	17	49	34	6							108
IX								4	34	55	25	3	1	1				123
X									5	19	58	16	8	1	1			108
XI										5	20	36	9	1				71
XII												2	27	26	15	2		72
Specials				1		2	6	2	3	4	4		2					24
	27	63	57	62	64	73	70	76	118	127	117	83	46	18	3			1004

Report of the Principal MARY E. WELLS HIGH SCHOOL

To The Superintendent of Schools:

In accordance with your request my second annual report as Principal of the Mary E. Wells High School is hereby submitted.

The enrollment for the year 1938-1939 is divided as follows: Post-graduates 12, Seniors 107, Juniors 156, Sophomores 189, Freshmen 203, Eighth Grade 162, Specials 32, a total of 861 pupils.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Diplomas are granted upon completion of five different courses; namely: Academic, Bookkeeping, Bookkeeping and Stenographic, General, and Stenographic.

One hundred and seven pupils were graduated on June 23, 1938 and their names and courses completed by them are included in this report for the information of interested citizens.

CLASS OF 1938 - Academic

*Barbara Elizabeth Bingley	*Kenneth Tyler Hunt
*Robert Milton Cole	Louise Martineau Lemmelin
*Franklin Washburn Daniels	*Elizabeth Jane Merrill
*Florida Gertrude DeMers	*Martha Nichols
Kenneth Stancliff Ford	*Mary Ellen Sutcliffe
Alice Margaret Hampshire	*Ruth Emilie Toucey
Warren Herbert Haynes	*Charles Edgar Troy
Janet Irene Hogan	Barbara Alice Wilkinson
	*Samuel Wesley Williams, Jr.

Bookkeeping

Doris Rita Bourassa	Harry Pandelly Kraly
*Evelyn Elizabeth Christo	Gertrude Bertha Maceikowicz
Christine Florence Decker	*Edward Armand Mageau

Stenographic

Margaret Belle Chace	*Gloria Jane Julian
*Isabelle Mary Cudworth	Doris Yvette Lapointe
*Rita Eloise Gagnon	Gertrude Mary Mangan
Mary Zoe Healy	*Marjorie Alice Murphy
*Gladys Anne Hood	*Marjorie McKay Phillips
	*Gladys Thecla Swyncicki

Stenographic and Bookkeeping

*Beverly Marie Austin	*Constance Alicia Bouchard
	*Claire Marguerite Lemire

General

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Stanley Fred Abrahamson | Celia Elizabeth Luponi |
| Albert Lucian Allard | Jean Sara McKinstry |
| Fred William Ashmankas | *Lorraine Cecile Mercure |
| *George Edward Beers | Katherine Bernice Milczewski |
| Francis Leonard Bousquet | *Clyde Everett Morrell |
| Bernard Richard Cabana | Evelyn Isabel Morse |
| Robert Jules Canning | Wayne Hall Morse |
| Ruth Louise Carey | Barbara Gertrude Munday |
| *Doris Adah Carpenter | *Barbara Bourn Noyes |
| *Julie Payne Chace | Ruth Catherine Oldfield |
| Theodora Loretta Czyzewski | Mary Gladys Olney |
| *Evelyn Theresa DaDalt | *Theodore Joseph Ostrowski |
| Helen Anna Damian | Joseph Paskal |
| Charles Leslie Davenport | Irene Veronica Petrelli |
| Hugo Paul DeAngelis | Rose Veronica Puccilli |
| Roland Joseph Demers | Estelle Clara Quevillon |
| Leo Paul Dubreuil | *Edna Rainbow |
| *Thurston Favor | Clifford Edward Reyor |
| *Nelson Joseph Fay, Jr. | Eugene Joseph Rischitelli |
| Helen Virginia Gray | *Harriet Walbridge Robinson |
| *Felicia Victoria Grudzien | Mary Louise Salvuolo |
| Robert Theodore Johnson | Edward George Sansoucy |
| *Frederick Rice Joslin | Margery Eleanor Simpson |
| Joseph William Kelly | Elmer Parker Smith |
| *Thaddeus Raymond Kwarciak | *Winifred Stachow Stanley |
| Paul Joseph Laliberte | Dorothy Pauline Swenson |
| Robert Cyril Laliberte | *Winifred Jane Thompson |
| Lucille Marie LaRiviere | Lawrence Richard Trombley |
| Ruth May Laughlin | *George Thomas Tully |
| Rudolph Armand Laverdiere | Neil Edward Turner, Jr. |
| *Francis Lenti | Efervita Vangel |
| Helen Anna Libera | *Vivian Joyce Vantura |
| Irene Frances Libuda | Armand Joseph Volpini |
| Charlotte Bessie Locke | Annie Beatrice Weaver |
| Edward Donald Lofgren | Viola Pearl Wheelock |
- *General Average of 80% or above for four years.

To complete the graduation requirements, the work is divided into twelve major departments. Each of these will be discussed briefly.

In the preparation of this report each department has submitted a report of its work and I have drawn freely upon this material. I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to each and every teacher who has submitted material to make this report a comprehensive study of the high school offerings.

ART DEPARTMENT

The scope of the curriculum of the art department has been enlarged this year so as to include crafts. The department has correlated its work as much as possible with that of other departments in the school.

The program includes the preparing of posters for different school activities and the making of place cards. Emphasis has been laid on Art Appreciation and Commercial Art. The design of different countries has been studied, and some excellent cartoons of school events have been drawn. In the Crafts course masks have been made, clay modeling has been attempted, and it is hoped that puppetry will be included next year.

The nucleus of a small art library has been formed and some of the plates in the library such as, "Costume through the Ages", have been used extensively in other departments. Eventually the art department expects to own its art library which will be of access to the entire student body.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT

To go into detail regarding trends in the commercial curriculum would be too lengthy, so I simply mention several the department has followed with a view to permanent acceptance.

1. Careful plans of exploration in the ninth year. This has helped to determine possible attitudes in order to guide pupils into the right channels. For example, pupils electing shorthand must have a good English rating. There is a tendency away from making the commercial department the dumping ground for failures and poor material.
2. A definite plan whereby more emphasis is given to the correlation of subject matter. Subjects are not isolated but bear a definite relation to each other.
3. In the past the commercial department was guilty of exploiting both pupils and teachers in doing clerical work in vast quantities for the school with the supposition it was practical work that provided excellent practice. Now a certain definite amount of time is given for this work

which is used as a basis for teaching content materials.

4. The expansion of teaching machines and mechanical devices. Machines are here to stay. Pupils should make business machines an essential part of their training because even the smallest office has at least one machine, and the day of apprenticeship on the job is fast disappearing.
5. The importance of individual personality to secure employment has been stressed. Business is demanding personality development and the student body needs it; therefore, it is justified in its growth. The department hopes to place books on personality as textbooks in the pupils' hands.

The fact that placement is the ultimate end of commercial education must be taken into consideration. If this is to be accomplished, it is necessary that subject matter be taught in terms of standards of accomplishment as set up by business. With this in mind, last May, twenty-one commercial seniors were submitted to the National Clerical Ability Tests, prepared and administered by a Joint Committee on Tests representing the National Office Management Association and the National Council of Business Education. These tests looked like the "College Board Examinations for Entrance into Business."

These items, briefly put, may be of interest. There were twenty-three testing centers in a geographical area stretching from Omaha, Nebraska, on the West to Boston, Massachusetts, on the East; and from St. Paul, Minnesota, and Cleveland, Ohio, on the North to Cincinnati, Ohio, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the South.

In these centers, 1,285 students from forty-five schools took the tests as follows: Fundamentals, 1,123; General Information, 1,120; Typing, 278; Stenographic, 547; Bookkeeping, 270; Machine Transcription, 62; Filing, 64; Machine Calculating, 64. Thus, it will be seen that a total of 3,528 tests were given. A total of 355 certificates were awarded.

The Commercial department is pleased to report the following good results. Eleven certificates were awarded to our group of contestants. The school average ob-

tained was not only the highest average in New England but also second highest in the country.

The department hopes to keep up this good showing. By studying the results of work done in each test, the commercial teachers endeavor to diagnose and strengthen the weak spots in our teaching program.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department has introduced several innovations in its curriculum which supplement the routine work of the teaching of English.

Although the individual differences which exist in every class provide variety within the routine of improving spoken and written English, several trends in English innovations have become strengthened this year. The field of oral English furnishes the most clearly defined change with the introduction of a speech class. Three clubs; namely, the Dramatic, the Debating, and the Glee Clubs, supplement the work in oral English by making correct speech a popular achievement. Last year oral English was encouraged by the American Legion. After elimination contests were held in Southbridge, Kenneth Hunt represented Southbridge Post at a contest in Whitinsville.

In addition to oral English, we have cooperated with patriotic organizations by requiring essays in celebration of the anniversary of the Constitution of the United States, and on Conservation, for the State Department of Education. Furthermore, "The Biggest News of the Week", the Worcester Gazette contest, the Southbridge Evening News, and the Southbridge Press have furnished stimulus in writing. The two local papers have published articles by pupils pertinent to performances in high school, and print a column of high school news written by a pupil reporter.

In cooperation with the Worcester Telegram, the eighth grade English classes entered the county Spelling Bee last year. An elimination of candidates from Sturbridge, Charlton, and Southbridge took place here. Our candidate, Dorothy Merrick, represented Mary E. Wells High School at Worcester.

Finally, other trends in our English department, which have been in quiet progress now for several years, are the gradual modernizing of required literature, the

establishing of definite minimum essentials in each grade, and the introducing of a systematized scheme of testing and measuring.

GENERAL VOCATIONAL COURSE

The General Vocational Course is a new department of the Mary E. Wells High School. This course offers opportunity for boys along vocational lines on a secondary school level. The work carried on in this department is supervised by the director of the Cole Trade School and will be covered in its entirety in his report.

HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

Clothing instruction begins in grade seven with hand work, simple stitches, the making of underwear, and is continued through grade eight where the girls become more expert with the use of the machine, making blouses and other articles of wearing apparel.

The Household Arts Course is a two year course offered in the Mary E. Wells High School. It is state aided, and thereby saves the town quite an amount of money. This course gives a girl the necessary foundation for home making. There are at present sixty girls taking the course and until such time when more room for the department is available and another teacher employed, the number of pupils enrolled in the course cannot be increased.

LANGUAGE

LATIN. At present Latin has its place in the curriculum as much as it had in the past. Since it is the "mother tongue" of French, Italian and Spanish, and, since over fifty per cent of English words are derived from the Latin, any pupil who desires to increase his vocabulary, to get a better understanding of words, and to obtain a more thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of English grammar, will find considerable help from a study of this basic language.

In the Latin I course the practical side is emphasized so that pupils taking the subject merely for a background may see its association with French, Italian, and English and the modern uses of it. Attention is called to the many Latin words, phrases and derivatives used in advertising, in inscriptions on coins, monuments, public buildings and in state mottoes. There still remain numerous Latin words and phrases commonly used by scien-

tists, doctors, nurses, lawyers, and engineers. Acquaintance with a language from which so much has been derived, translation of passages dealing with Roman culture and civilization will enable pupils to see the influence of the Romans and their language upon the development of modern life.

In the Latin II course there is given a more intensive study of the language so that pupils may obtain a better working knowledge of sentence structure to aid them in their English composition.

In dealing with this subject, most teachers now aim to make it a functional and living language. That aim is being carried out in the Mary E. Wells High School.

French is offered as an elective subject for three years. Following is a brief resume of the work of each year.

First year:

1. A careful foundation in French grammar.
2. Emphasis on correct pronunciation and conversation.
3. Reading of simple selections.
4. Study of history and literature of the French language.
5. Exploratory work toward future study.

Second year:

1. Review and greater stress of elementary grammar.
2. Advanced reading selections.
3. Study of idiomatic expressions.
4. Conversation in French in class.

Third year:

1. Advanced reading selections,
 - a. French historical novel
 - b. A satire
 - c. A story of life in a French province
 - d. A biography.
2. Advanced conversation in French.
3. Reading of French newspapers.
4. Research work about French authors, painters and scientists.
5. Notebook work on grammar, supplementary lessons.
6. Review of French movies.
7. Use of Perry pictures.
8. Use of "Believe it or Not" column of French information.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The one change made last year in the mathematics curriculum; namely, that of changing "Review Mathematics" to "Second Year Algebra" has worked out satisfactorily. This is especially evident from the fact that those students who took "Second Year Algebra" last year and have followed mathematics in colleges, or in engineering schools have been very successful.

In June of 1938, Cooperative Achievement Tests of the American Council of Education were administered to the mathematics and physics classes. The results were as follows:

Subject	Mean Ave. of Southbridge	Other Schools Tested
Algebra II	62.3	57.3
Plane Geometry	60.5	54.1
Physics	63.5	57.0

These means are computed by the American Council of Education.

Further comparisons with national norms would show that the average student in Algebra II in Southbridge is superior to 70% of the students in other public secondary schools tested. In Plane Geometry, the percentage is 74% and in Physics 75%.

The comment made by the Council on the group performance in all three subjects was "quite unusual".

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music Department is concerned with both instrumental and vocal instruction.

The former is under the direction of Mr. Robert Hall, who since January 1, 1939, has assumed the duties left vacant by the resignation of Mr. William Winston. Instrumental music in the Mary E. Wells High School consists of three parts; namely, the concert orchestra, the dance orchestra, and the band.

Vocal instruction is supervised by Miss Berthe Hebert. Voice culture development centers about the Glee Club in the High School. One school period each week is devoted to the Glee Club. During this time the fundamentals of voice culture which lead to perfection in vocal attainment are stressed. The Glee Club sponsors an annual operetta and the members of the club often participate in school assemblies and functions.

OCCUPATIONS DEPARTMENT

Help and Guidance in the choice of high school subjects is offered in Occupations, an exploratory freshmen course. The selection of a challenging occupational goal, basic to happy and worthwhile citizenship today, is made possible by a serious study of the training and qualifications necessary for entrance into the various occupations opened to young men and women. Motion pictures, visits to local industries, research, as well as

dramatizations and group discussions are used throughout the course. Individual need and aptitude is of major importance and, through the personal interview, each pupil is made to feel his individual responsibility for school and vocational success.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

My recommendation is that a Physical Education program should be introduced in the high school as soon as funds and transportation to the West Street Gymnasium are available. The chief aims of such a course are listed in my report of last year.

PUBLIC SPEAKING DEPARTMENT

In an attempt to develop poise and the ability of self-expression in students, a new course in Public Speaking was inaugurated this year. Exercises are given which encourages alertness, assurance, initiative and resourcefulness in pupils. The ultimate aim of the course is to help equip students for their individual vocations and for efficient citizenship.

SAFETY DEPARTMENT

The Safety Education Program this year has been concerned with the strengthening and the enlarging of the program initiated last year. The traffic control system outside the high school has been renewed with increased effort. A trained traffic squad is managing with increased skill the crowds of young people who leave the building. The students on their part have come to accept with good grace the restrictions imposed in the interest of safety.

To supplement the good safety habits acquired outside the building, several assemblies are held during the year which are devoted wholly or in part to the developing of safety consciousness.

The teaching of the safety program in the classroom is not limited to any one teacher or department. Every teacher, realizing the value of safety habits, uses opportunities to present the subject as the occasion might arise. The Art classes have cooperated by making posters which illustrate this theme.

The Social Studies department, however, assumes much of the responsibility for the inculcation of safety habits and consciousness. A unit of study in the Civics, Economics, and Problems of Democracy classes is devoted to the general subject of Safety.

In connection with safety habits, monthly fire drills are called. These drills come at unexpected times throughout the school day. The building is completely emptied of its 960 individuals, including pupils and teachers in less than two minutes.

At this time I would like to express my appreciation for the cooperation received from Chief Ulric Brault, Officer Lariviere, and all other members of the Police Department in helping make our safety program a success.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Science Department offers four courses; namely, general science, biology, chemistry, and physics. Laboratory work is offered in connection with all four of these courses, although in general science most of the laboratory work is done by the teacher whereas in the other courses the laboratory work is done by the pupils.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The Social Studies Department has added two courses; namely, Ancient History, and Medieval and Modern History to its program for this year, in order to meet more adequately the needs of the students. Civics and Occupations is offered during the freshman year and is based upon a textbook which is supplemented by the Southbridge Town Report and Budget. This class is

often conducted as a town meeting, and the passage of bills and court sessions are occasionally dramatized. Ancient History for college preparatory students is also offered during the freshman year. The second new course, Medieval and Modern History, is taught in the sophomore year. These courses are followed later by American History and Government, Sociology, Economics, Problems of Democracy and Current History. The courses in this department are all supplemented by current events, the radio and current magazines along with various projects. By these means the students can show the practical application of facts they have learned.

SPECIAL CLASSES

Special classes are held for pupils who need additional instruction in one or more subjects. At the present time we are conducting two experiments with the Metronoscope. The first deals with pupils needing extra help in arithmetic, and is under the direction of Miss Marjorie Fitch. The second deals with pupils needing additional help in English, especially those who through a testing program have been found to be slow readers. Miss Rose Brodeur is in charge of this experiment. It is, however, still too early in the experiments to draw any conclusions.

THRIFT EDUCATION

The Mary E. Wells High School has entered upon its second year of school banking in cooperation with the Southbridge Savings Bank.

VISUAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

American educators are considering more and more the problems associated with the teaching of reading. The problems of diagnosis, initial instruction, and proper corrective work daily confront teachers.

In view of these considerations this report is devoted to help in their solution.

The Metronoscope offers a solution to these reading problems. Its use in the classroom helps tremendously initial instruction and corrective work.

"The aims in initial reading instruction are: 1— To establish desirable reading habits and attitudes; and 2— To develop, to a maximum, the various reading skills.

"The correction of ineffective reading habits involves two activities: 1—Discovering and eliminating undesirable reading habits and attitudes already acquired; then 2—substituting more efficient methods of attack and assisting in the practice of the new techniques until the pupil has attained at least reasonable skill in their use." (Manual for Controlled Reading)

The Visual Aids Department is inaugurating a series of reading tests with the use of the Metronoscope. The outcome will no doubt result in improved reading habits for the students who have improper reading tendencies.

The Visual Aids Department also supplies films to all departments of the school to aid in the teaching of the various subjects. This work has been particularly beneficial in the science, music, social study, and safety classes. Again I recommend that money be appropriated to secure a suitable library of films for high school use.

TEACHER TRAINING

It is to be hoped that teachers will continue their university extension and summer school training whenever possible.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Although we give a diploma to each graduate which differs only in course designation, the value of the diploma varies widely.

Sixty-five percent is the passing mark and a pupil completing eighty points at that figure is entitled, to our diploma, but his accomplishment can not be considered

equal to the pupil in the college preparatory or commercial course whose general average is eighty percent or above.

We consider a mark of C or D to be satisfactory only when a pupil is working to capacity.

REQUIREMENTS FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

For the average or even superior pupils planning on advanced education training ten hours or more per week of home study is essential. We certify to college or other standard schools only those pupils of superior ability who we have reason to feel are ready for advanced work. In this connection I wish to urge all parents who are planning such training for their children to confer with us frequently about entrance requirements and all matters pertaining to admission.

The school wishes to help each pupil gain college entrance whenever possible and is always willing to correspond with the officials involved.

IN GENERAL

Each potential pupil planning college entrance should complete four years of English, four years of language, two years of science, two years of social studies, and two years of mathematics, and no parent of a pupil in this group should encourage or permit a pupil to discontinue a subject until he is very certain college entrance does not require it.

EXTRA-CURRICULA ACTIVITIES

The school offers many opportunities in extra-curricula activities. Twenty pupils are taking advantage of the National Youth Administration Program which is assisting worthy and needy students to remain in school by performing useful tasks outside of school hours.

The extra-curricula program includes many and varied clubs, the purpose of which is to help develop in the individual pupil an absorbing interest to occupy his leisure time.

The following is a list of clubs that have functioned in the school the past year: The Footlighters Club, Girls' Club, Archery Club, Rifle Club, Stamp Club, Glee Club, Debating Club, Ski Club, Crimson and Gray Publication, Tennis Club, "W" Club, Choral Speaking Club, Arts and Crafts Club, Latin Club, and Student Council.

* * * * *

I express my appreciation to Mr. Channing H. Greene, Superintendent of Schools, to each and every member of the School Committee, and to the taxpayers of the town of Southbridge for this opportunity to present my report on the Mary E. Wells High School, and for their continued support of the educational policies of the high school.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES M. ROBERTSON,

Principal

Report of the Director
COLE TRADE SCHOOL

To the Superintendent of Schools:

I wish to thank you and the School Committee for your consideration and approval of my proposals in the annual report of last year to increase vocational training opportunities.

The course of Painting and Decorating was established May 1, 1938. Students have readily responded to it and

are progressing rapidly under the guidance of Mr. Elmer Akerson. At this time, it is the only course offered which, particularly, is a training aid to the Building Trades.

The General Vocational courses, housed in the High School building, were put into operation September 7. The subjects established were, General Woodwork—General Metalwork—Mathematics—Science—Drawing—English—Civics—History. Exceptional progress has been made in organization and vocational guidance. Many students have already demonstrated craftsmanship ability and have been transferred to trade subjects.

The following record will indicate what adjustments have taken place during the fiscal year. Please have in mind that the increased attendance was for the last four months only.

	Coop.	Day	Total
In school at end of year	74	159	233
Graduated	27	2	29
Certificated	3	1	4
Entering industry trained for	2	7	9
Entering other occupations	7	31	38
Unfitted for trade subjects	1	9	10
Returned to Grammar or High School	1	10	11
Left because of illness	2	7	9
Left Town	0	1	1
Transferred to Cooperative School ...		26	26
Total membership for year	117	253	370
Enrolled during year	54	169	223

The graduates of 1938 are:

Machinists

Charles Regis Burrows	James Leonard Rawson
Walter John Brzeis	Andrew Joseph Remian
Alfred Edward Galipeau	Omer Joseph Robidoux
Russell Clark Joslin	Edward Frank Saletnik
Alexander Stanley Lesniewski	Theodore John Saletnik

John Joseph Libera Leon Michael Sanek
 Philip Harrison McKinstry Stefano Ettore Simonelli
 John Daniel Szydlik

Factory Maintenance

Lawrence George Alexander Benoit Fred Chester Lupa
 Charles Stanley Jesky Laurier Theodore Plante
 Albert Thadeus Kania Fredrick Roy Roberts
 Frank Walter Smolen

Cabinet Makers

Ignac Edward Damian Stephen Vincent Skowron
 Camille Paul Jolin Edward Stephen Szydlik

Printers

Frances Edward Holden

Evening School

Courses Offered	Membership
Machine Shop Practice -----	35
Toolmaking -----	27
Cabinet Making -----	18
Mathematics -----	20
Architectural Drafting -----	12
Mechanical Drafting -----	19
Machine Science -----	11
Toolmaking Problems -----	7
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I respectfully submit this report for your consideration and publication.

COLE TRADE SCHOOL

C. H. MORRELL, Director

**Report of the Director
SOUTHBRIDGE CONTINUATION SCHOOL**

Mr. Channing H. Greene
Superintendent of Schools
Southbridge, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

For the school year ending June 24, 1938, there were forty-nine girls enrolled in the Girls' Division of the Continuation School. Of this number, thirteen were between the ages of fourteen and fifteen years, and thirty-six were between fifteen and sixteen years.

The school was in session each Tuesday and Wednesday from one o'clock till five. The first two hours were devoted to Household Arts and the last two to Academic Subjects.

With very few exceptions, our girls were engaged in housework in their own homes or as domestics in the homes of others. Therefore we tried to teach those things that will be of greatest help and value to them now and in the future.

The foods course, in Household Arts, was planned to teach the principles of nutrition and economy in the selection, preparation and serving of foods for the family; to help the girls to raise the standard of their work, and to appreciate the relation between a well ordered home and a healthful, happy family life.

The clothing course presented the principles of construction, and the use of commercial patterns in connection with the making of garments for the girl's own wear. Hand sewing and the use of the sewing machine were taught in their most practical application.

A course of ten one-hour lessons in Home Nursing and Child Care was given by Miss King, the school nurse. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of home care for the sick, the proper care and handling of children, and the importance of preventative measures of sanitation and health in the home.

The course in academic subjects included instruction tending to improve and up-grade the girl in her present employment, and to make her a happier, more intelligent young citizen,—a real asset in any community. Practical lessons in English, arithmetic, civics, and personal improvement were taught.

Placement is an important phase of our Continuation School, but this year it has been almost impossible to find a girl who wanted to change her employment. The girls who enter our school come with a "home permit" or they are engaged in some home as helpers. Very few have wanted to change their work before becoming sixteen years of age at which time they may find work in the shops and stores of the town.

The girls realize how keen is the competition for jobs and they strive to attain the qualities that make the better worker, namely honesty, accuracy, attention and cheerfulness.

Respectfully submitted

LAURA B. DESMARAIS

ANNUAL REPORT OF SCHOOL NURSE

Southbridge, Massachusetts

Mr. Channing H. Greene
Superintendent of Schools

In submitting my report as School Nurse, I wish to add my regrets to those of the other members of the School Department on the loss of our late School Physician. It was

my privilege as nurse to work with Dr. Simpson. I found him most courteous, kind, and considerate; always interested in the welfare of the children; ever ready to answer any call for help, giving freely of his time, advice and money. Many a needy child was aided by his generosity; we all looked upon him as a good friend, and one we will not soon forget.

While new methods, and new material have been used in the schools during the year, in order to stimulate the children in healthy living, the objectives have been the same. We have been particularly fortunate in freedom from epidemics of any kind. Parents are more co-operative in having defects corrected, and personal hygiene is now a matter of pride in our children.

Pre-School Clinic

The Pre-School Clinic which we feel is a most important part of the School Health program was held the first two days in June. Eighty-one children of age to enter school in September reported for examinations. Dr. Simpson conducted the physical examinations, and Dr. Demarais and Dr. DeGrenier the oral examinations. In most instances, a parent accompanied the child, thus giving an excellent opportunity for the examiner to point out defects when found, and to give advice concerning the best means of correction. The interest and co-operation of the parents have been most gratifying. Most of these children entered school in September physically fit as a result of this co-operation.

Chest Clinic

The annual Chest Clinic, sponsored by the State and County Health Associations for pupils in the seventh, ninth, and eleventh grades, was held in March. Dr. Edson Glidden, Superintendent of the West Boylston Sanatorium delivered a Pre-Clinic address to the pupils of the above grades, supplementing same with moving pictures, showing procedure used in giving tests, etc. The number of request

slips signed by parents, and the attendance of the clinic, demonstrated that parents are anxious to avail themselves of opportunities to protect their children from this dread disease. the following is the report:

Grade	Enrollment	Skin Tests	Reactors	Re-XRay	Total XRay
7	167	136	18	0	18
9	205	114	8	21	29
11	108	44	3	5	8
Other Grade		3	3	13	16
Total enrollment 480			Skin tests 294 or 16.25 %		

Health Camp

Four girls, three of whom were from the public schools, were much benefited by an eight weeks' stay at Sterling Health Camp during July and August. This worthy project is financed by the money obtained from the sales of Health Seals. Selecting and preparing these girls for camp, necessitates much time and detail work by the nurses, as not all girls are eligible.

Continuation School

The usual amount of time was spent in class work with Continuation School girls. An effort has been made to teach good practical nursing in the home, with stress laid on the importance of following the doctor's orders.

Milk Lunches

The Southbridge Democratic Club donated \$235.97 to the schools to provide milk lunches for under-nourished children. Of this sum, \$104.40 was used in the Public Schools, providing 3480 half-pint bottles of milk. Children who were given milk have been, in every case, from homes where no milk was provided, or where for financial reasons the milk supply had to be curtailed.

Welfare Work

During the year, as in previous years, it was found necessary to call on the various welfare agencies for aid in having defects corrected. Dr. DiBonaventura and Dr. Hanson gave much time to examination of the eyes, and when so advised by them, glasses were provided for children whose parents were unable to finance same.

Clothing in very good condition has been sent to the nurse's office, for distribution, for which we are most grateful, and pleased to place where it was most needed.

Home Visits

It is a pleasure to report the cordial reception given the Nurse on the occasion of the home visits frequently made. Here, information is received from the parent, and advice given by the Nurse, so that the contact thus made works for the good of the child.

Respectfully submitted,

WINIFRED V. KING, R. N.

IN MEMORIAM

DR. CHARLES SIMPSON

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN

December, 1922 — October, 1938

HENRY J. TETRAULT

A Member of the School Committee

March, 1938 — May, 1938

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE SUPERVISOR

To the Superintendent of Schools:

The annual report of the Supervisor of Attendance is hereby presented.

This is the third report as Supervisor of Attendance and as you are thoroughly familiar with all the duties of this department, I will simply give you the summary of the year's work.

Registration of School Children

Persons 5 years of age or over and under 7	368
Persons 7 years of age or over and under 14	1,925
Persons 14 years of age or over and under 16	664
Number of pupils visited for absences, due to illness, truancy, lack of clothing, shoes or misunderstanding between the teacher and the pupil, contagious disease or other reasons ..	684
Cases investigated for home permits	8
Cases of children working unlawfully	2
Follow-up and friendly visits	52
Number of children assisted with shoes	28
Number of children assisted with clothing	10
Number of children adjusted in school work	30
Number of children for whom employment was obtained ...	12
Number of employment certificates 16-21	270
Number of employment certificates 16-21 illiterate	3
Number of employment certificates 14-16	9
Home permits	12
News boys and street trades	26

I wish to thank at this time the Supervisors of all our schools for the splendid co-operation that I have received when dealing with truant cases.

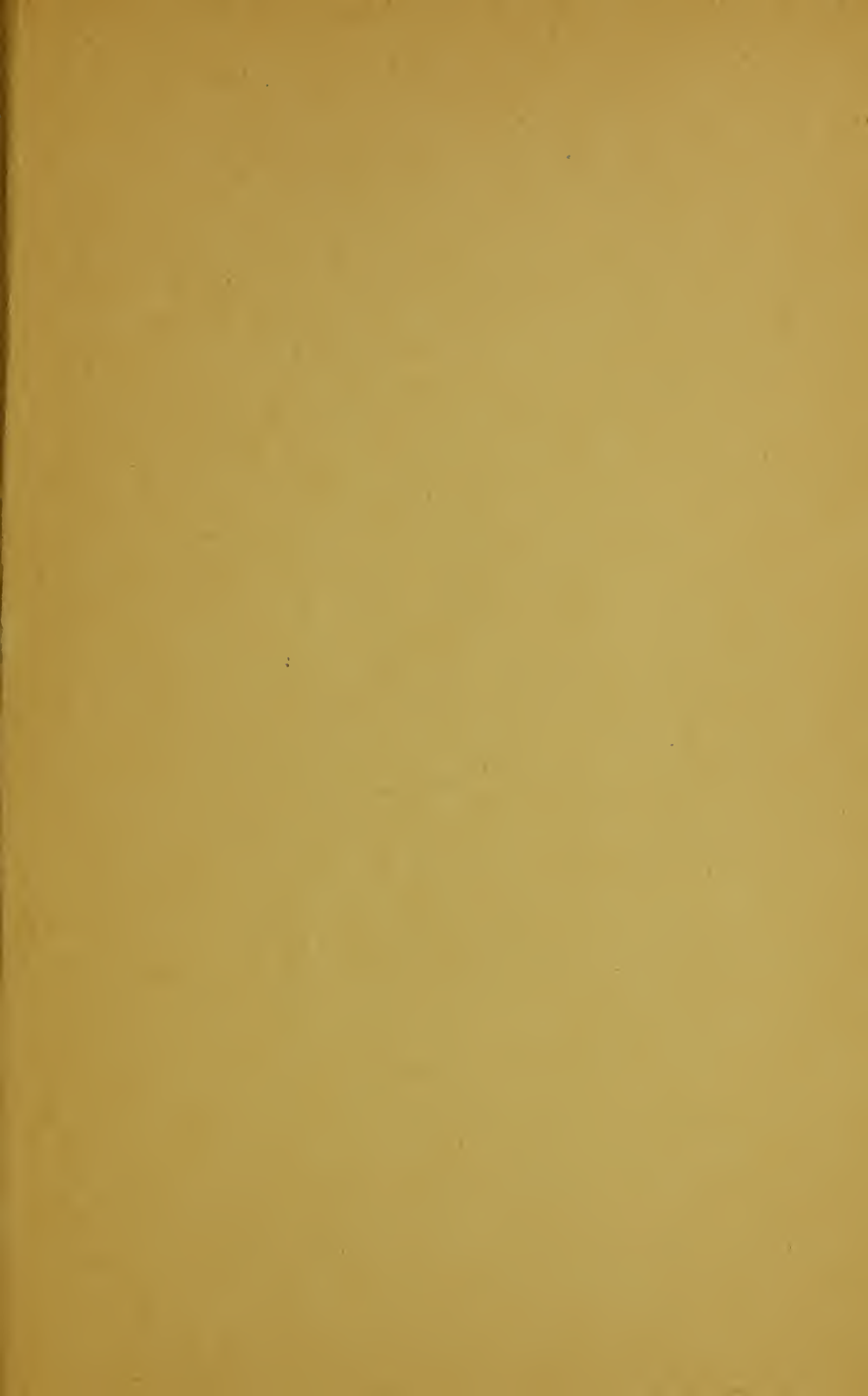
The splendid co-operation and the tireless effort on the part of your personal secretary, Mrs. Lavoie, and Miss Hofstra, Mr. Robertson's secretary, in preparing various lists and in helping me daily in the problems of school census and other phases of this work.

I also appreciate the manner in which the Board of Public Welfare, the Lions Club, Miss King, Miss Butler, our local Police Chief, and Judge Rieutord have so willingly worked, hand in hand, for the welfare of the "Child."

In closing I wish to say that the above co-operation and the hard work that every teacher so willingly puts into this work makes it a pleasure to be conducting this important phase of school work.

Respectfully submitted,

EMERY A. LAVALLEE



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